

Message Text

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ACTION ABF-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 PM-03 INR-07 /018 W

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R 140820Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO DIR USGAO HONOLULU, HAWAII

CINCPAC

SECDEF

JCS

SECSTATE WASHDC 8141

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BANGKOK FOR LYONS - GAO

STATE FOR BF/GAO

DOD FOR ASD (COMPT)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, AFSP, ID, US

SUBJECT: GAO VISIT ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE TRAINING

REF: BANGKOK 8404 (090754Z MAY 75)

1. EMBASSY AND DLG WILL BE PLEASED TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR GAO VISIT. OUR PERSONNEL WILL BE PREPARED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON TOPICS MENTIONED IN THIRD PARAGRAPH OF REFTEL, INCLUDING, IN CONNECTION WITH RELATIONSHIP OF MILITARY TRAINING TO OTHER USG TRAINING PROGRAMS, DATA ON AID AND USIS PROGRAMS. WE WILL ALSO ARRANGE VISITS TO SELECTED TRAINING SITES AND WILL DISCUSS ITINERARY WITH TEAM AFTER THEIR ARRIVAL.

2. CONCERNING SIZE OF TEAM AND DURATION OF VISIT, THERE ARE TWO SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS OF WHICH YOU SHOULD BE AWARE. ONE IS THAT OPPORTUNITIES TO VISIT TRAINING

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LOCATIONS ARE VERY LIMITED. MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAM

IS SMALL, AND LITTLE OF IT IS CONDUCTED IN INDONESIA.

3. SECOND CONSIDERATION IS THAT WE DOUBT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE ARRANGE USEFUL VISITS TO INDONESIAN MILITARY UNITS WHERE US-TRAINED PERSONNEL ARE ASSIGNED. FOR REASONS OF NATIONAL PRIDE AND SECURITY, GOI IS EXTREMELY SENSITIVE ABOUT FOREIGN "INSPECTION" OF MILITARY UNITS. IF THEY AGREE TO RECEIVE GAO TEAM MEMBERS, IT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY BE IN CONTEXT OF FORMAL BRIEFING THAT WOULD LEAVE NO OPPORTUNITY FOR INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT BY TEAM MEMBERS. GOI ATTITUDE REFLECTS FACT THAT UNLIKE MOST OTHER MAP RECIPIENTS IN FAR EAST, THEY HAVE NO DEFENSE ALLIANCE WITH U.S. AND ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO MAINTAINING IMAGE OF INDEPENDENCE AND NON-ALIGNMENT. THIS LIKELY BE MATTER OF EVEN MORE CONCERN TO THEM IN LIGHT OF RECENT EVENTS IN INDOCHINA.

4. IN LIGHT OF THESE FACTORS, SUGGEST YOU MAY WANT TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO LIMITING SIZE OF TEAM AND ITS STAY HERE. TWO PEOPLE FOR TWO OR THREE WEEKS COULD PROBABLY COVER AREAS OF INTEREST IN REFTEL.

5. PLEASE ADVISE IN EVENT YOU CONCLUDE THAT CHANGE IN COMPOSITION AND DURATION OF VISIT DESIRABLE. IN MEANTIME, WE WILL MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS AND ARRANGE TRANSPORTATION AS REQUESTED REFTEL. MISSION DESIRES COOPERATE WITH GAO TEAM IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE BUT BELIEVES YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF FACTORS WHICH MIGHT INHIBIT VISIT OF SCOPE SET FORTH IN REFTEL.
NEWSOM

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